Setting up of India's largest LPG plan Vijaypur by GAIL

*273. SHRI ASHOK NATH VERMA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Gas Authority of India Ltd. has set up the country's largest LPG plant at Vijaypur to produce over 4,00,000 tonnes of LPG per annum; if so, what are the details thereof;

(b) whether GAIL has invited applications from entrepreneurs for setting up of ancillary units near the plant; if so, what are the details thereof and if not, what are the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether GAIL had invited applications for LPG distribution in identified areas as a part of first phase of its marketing; if so, what are the details thereof, Statewise?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI M. S. GURUPADASWAMY). (a) M|s. Gas Authority of India are setting up an LPG Plan at Bijaipur based on the natural gas transported through the HBJ Pipeline. The project is being implemented in two phases and will have a capacity to produce about 4 lac tonnes of LPG per annum. ONGC have already set up LPG Plants based on natural gas at Uran in Maharashtra and at Hazira in Gujarat with primarily meant for use as domestic 4 lakh tonnes of LPG per annum.

(b) No, Sir. GAIL have not invited applications for setting up of ancillary units near the plant as it is not in the scope of GAIL's activities. LPG is primarily meant for use as domestic fuel.

(c) It has been decided that the marketing of LPG would be done by oil marketing companies such as IOC, BPCL and HPCL only, and not by GAIL.

Findings of the price review committee

*274. DR. G. VIJAYA MOHAN REDDY:

SHRI RAJNI RANJAN SAHU:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 275 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 7th May, 1990 and state:

(a) when was the Price Review Committee appointed to look into the complaints received against the findings of special team for calculation of overcharge amounts in respect of companies involved in Supreme Court cases;

(b) what are the details of complaints received and what are the names of drugs involved; and

(c) what are the details of the findings received by the Committee and what is Government's reaction on each?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI M. S. GURUPADASWAMY): (a) While the Special Team tentatively assessed the amounts reccoverable from the companies involved in the Supreme Court Case, for the entire period from 1981 to 1987, the Price Review Committee reviewed the prices of those companies as also of M|s. Glaxo. In view, however, of receipt of complaints against the findings of both these Committees, it was decided in July, 1989 to have their findings scrutinised at the level of Additional Secretary & Financial Adviser in the Ministry of Industry.

(b) The representations against the Special Team and the Price Review Committee *inter-alia* related to incorrect fixation of prices, under assessment of the recoveries, grant of undue set offs to each company to which it was not entitled, and non-calculation of the recoveries down to the formulation level wherever relevant. The major drugs against which representations have been received include Baralgone Ketone, Glyben-

clamide, Dexamathasone, Betamethasone and formulations.

(c) In the light of the findings contained in the report of Additional Secretary and Financial Adviser in the Ministry of Industry, it has been decided to have a fresh look into the entire findings of the Special Team, the Price Review Committee and other subsequent developments.

Coal linkage from Telcher to Andhra Pradesh State Electricity Board

*275. DR. YELAMANCHILI SIVAJI: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether any proposal from Government of Andhra Pradesh regarding coal linkage from Telcher to Andhra Pradesh State Electricty Board is pending with the Central Government; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof and by when it is likely to be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ARIF MOHD. KHAN): (a) and (b) Following proposals for coal linkage to the Thermal Power Stations for benefits during the Eighth Plan period have been received from Andhra Pradesh·

(i) Muddanur TPS (2x210 MW)

(ii) Vijaywada Extension Stage-III (2x210 MW)

(iii) Vishakhapatnam TPS (2x 500MW)

(iv) Manuguru TPS (2x500 MW)

Coal linkage has already been given to Muddanur TPS from coal mines of Singareni Collieries Company Ltd. For Vijaywada State-III TPS, coal linkage has been confirmed from Ib-Valley coalfields of Orissa. Regarding Vishakhapatnam TPS, of which the first Unit of 500 MW is proposed to be commissioned towards end of 1994-95, since enough coal would not be available from Singareni mines, linkage would be given for the first unit from either Talcher or Ib Valley coalfields of Orissa to be effective from the early part of the Ninth Plan period. In view of continuing deficit between demand and availability of coal on Singareni areas, it has not been possible to give coal linkage to the proposed Manuguru Thermal Power Station.

Kickbacks pocketted by a former pilot

*276. SHRI A. G. KULKARNI:

SHRI VISHWASRAO RAMRAO PATIL:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the report which appeared in the Indian Express, Pune dated the 1st April, 1990, according to which the former Minister of State for External Affairs has alleged that some massive kickbacks were pocketted by a former pilot who has built a hotel in Los Angeles;

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard; and

(c) whether any enquiry has been ordered into the matter?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ARIF MOHD. KHAN): (a) to (c) The Central Bureau of Investigation has registered a case No. RC-2(A) 90-ACU(II) in connection with the irregularities in purchase of Airbus A-320 aircraft by Indian Airlines. One of the allegations listed in the F.I.R. relates to kickbacks received by persons responsible, directly or indirectly for the purchase of Airbus A-320 aircraft powered with V-2500 engine.